Dated at Washington D.C.

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AGRICULTURE V

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MAIN TITLE:

"THE BANANA" -

Produced and Distributed by Ford Motion
Picture Laboratories
Copyrighted 1922 by Ford Meter Company

SUB-TITLES:

- 1. The banana has the same food value as the potate. We consume 50,000,000 bunches of banana each year. Jamaica grows the most of our supply. A map of the banana countries.
- 2. These countries have --- soil --- rainfall and ---- temperature, which are required to grow the banana.
- 3. Bananas are grown on large plantations. To start a banana plantation the dense tropical vegetation is destroyed.
- 4. The tangled mass of tropical plants is cut down and burned.
- 5. The banana sprouts are planted nine to fifteen feet apart in trenches and 200 to the acre.
- 6. Within six weeks, the stalks are six feet high, and the plantation has many thousand acres of young banana plants.
- 7. This plantation is larger than the city of Besten or Detroit. Each acre will produce 242,000 pounds of bananas, or 200 times more than an acre of potatoes.
- 8. The large plantation has good roads so the fruit may be quickly hauled to the shipping port.
- 9. Beautiful tropical palms line these roads.
- 10. Each plant bears at its top one large red blossom.
- 11. From this blossom, the banana bunch grows and in six weeks it weighs sixty pounds.
- 12. The fruit is harvested nine months after planting.
- 13. Observe that the banana grows on the stalk pointing up --- in the storethe bunch hangs with the banana pointing down.
- 14. Nine menths after planting the harvesting begins ---- the stalk is cut, it bends slowly to the ground and the bunch of bananas is cut off.
- 15. The heavy bunches are gathered into piles to be inspected and await the wagon or truck.
- 16. The hard green bananas have careful handling in leading.
- 17. The ex-team is still used on many plantations in Jamaica to carry the fruit to the shipping point.

- 18. The workders on a banana plantation live in thatched huts in the tropical forest.
- 19. Many somen are employed in picking and carrying the fruit.
- 20. The work on the plantation is directed by American or English Superintendent.
- 21. Their homes are built for protection from heat and heavy rainfall.
- 22. Special refrigerator ships carry the bananas to the United States and Europe.
- 23. When the ship decks it is quickly leaded with the fruit. Women are usually employed in leading.
- 24. There are 150 special steamships which carry bananas to the United States.

 These beats are swifter than the common freight beats.
- 25. More than half of the bananas used in the United States come to New Orleans. Modem Unloading machinery carries the banana bunches direct to the cars.
- 26. Train leads of banans leave New Orleans daily for the large cities of the middle west. The fruit is quickly unleaded and delivered to the distributors.
- 27. The banam is a fruit-food in a germ-proof package. It is clean and requires no cooking. It is always ready, cheap, and its food value is equal to wheat or the potato.

THE END.

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